Third United Nations International Conference on the Peaceful Uses of Atomic Energy

A/CONF.28/A/120
JAPAN
February 1964
Submitted in:
ENGLISH and FRENCH

Confidential until official release during Conference

Abstract

RESEARCH REACTORS IN JAPAN

Atomic Energy Society of Japan

It was in the middle of the 1950's that the peaceful uses of atomic energy really started in Japan. In the summer of 1957, a small research reactor, the first reactor in Japan, went critical, and in the seven ensuing years to date, 2 large and 4 small research reactors as well as a training reactor have been completed. In addition, 3 other research reactors are at present under construction.

These reactors can be classified into three groups: 4 reactors located in one atomic center, the Japan Atomic Energy Research Institute (JAERI); 3 reactors designed and constructed by private companies for their own use; 4 reactors owned by universities. These reactors have been utilized in various ways to best suit the purpose of their installation: The reactors in JAERI, have been utilized in a wide range of uses from basic to applied or development research. The reactors owned by private companies have contributed to raising the technological level of the companies through the experience gained in manufacturing the equipment and components related to atomic energy and by their utilization of the reactors for developing the equipment and components. The reactors owned by universities have been utilized for education and training, as well as for basic and applied research in various fields.

Thus, although many research reactors have been constructed

in Japan in a relatively short period, the reactors have been effectively utilized, and are playing a major role in stimulating progress in the field by their use in training scientists and promoting the advance of technological competence in producing nuclear equipment.